

distinctness. Concerning the latter, Fries himself, when writing about *S. ciliata*, says, "cilia foliorum plus minus distincta, sæpe decidua:" he also says, "capsula . . . matura nutans," but his own specimens show that this is too strong an expression; for although nodding whilst the fruit ripens, they become erect at the time of maturity when the capsule opens and the seeds are shed. *S. patula* (Jordan), Obs. sur Pl. Nouv. de la France, i. t. 3, is very similar to our plant, but differs by having numerous gland-tipped hairs on its sepals and the upper part of the peduncle. To it probably belongs the *S. ciliata* of Reichenbach, both of his 'Fl. Excurs.' and 'Icones Plant.' v. tab. 200. f. 4956, and *S. depressa*, f. 4957, unless the protruded capsule of the former should be considered as distinguishing it. Neither of them can be the *S. ciliata* of Fries, since they are both figured and described as having glandular-pilose peduncles and calyx. The following seems to be the distinctive character of our plant:—

*S. ciliata* (Fries!); stem elongated, branches diffuse or ascending, leaves linear awned, *outer sepals acute* longer than the petals and shorter than the capsule, apex of the peduncles reflexed after flowering ultimately erect.—Sven. Bot. t. 562, not *Reich.*—Glabrous; central stem elongated and fertile. Leaves with or without cilia at their base, tipped with a long bristle. Calyx of mature fruit adpressed to the capsule. Tubercles on the seeds blunt.—The figure quoted above from the 'Sven. Bot.' is far from good. It represents all the sepals as gradually narrowed into a long acute point. Not so the specimens published under Fries's own superintendence (Herb. Norm. Succ. i. 42), which resemble ours in this respect, having two shortly acute sepals and two only pointed or cuspidate ones.—C. C. B.

#### CAREX BRIZOIDES (LINN.).

I am indebted to Mr. William Stevens of the Drumlanrig gardens for specimens of this addition to the flora of Britain, which was discovered in July 1844 by Mr. W. MacIvor in Studley Wood, Yorkshire. Its specific character may be stated as follows:—*C. brizoides* (L.); spikelets several all simple contiguous sterile at their base alternate in a simple spike, stigmas 2, fruit lanceolate plano-convex bifid at the end serrated from near the base, nut (elliptical beaked and stalked?), glumes rather shorter than the fruit, *root creeping*, bracts short or none.—Reich. Icon. Fl. Germ. viii. tab. 207. fig. 548; Hoppe Car. Germ. in Sturm Deutschl. Fl. tab. a. 23.—Stem a foot high. Glumes acute, silvery brown. Leaves long, slender, equalling or overtopping the spikes. Rhizoma creeping extensively.—C. C. B.

#### *Some Contributions to the Natural History of the Rafflesia Patma.*

By M. ZOLLINGER, M. Bat. Soc. &c.

This flower, which still continues a problem in botany and a rarity in the collections of botanists, appears not to be so scarce as has hitherto been believed. I know that it occurs on the south coast of Java on the hills near the boundaries of the Residencies of Passarúwan